MINUTES FOR NAPRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS JUNE 8TH

I. Meeting was called to order by Ken, N7IPB, at 10:08 AM at the BEARS Shack in Renton. In attendance were Ken, N7IPB, Peter, WA7FUS, Scott, N7FSP, Dennis, KB7DZ, Terry, N6RY, and John, KA7TTY, and Richard, N7HHU, John, N7MGZ, Leonard, KB7NEM, Peter, N7ENT, Steve, N7IIJ, Warren, N7FRU, Conrad, N7DUO, Roger, K7AYC, and Kathleen, N0EYK.

II. Minutes of the May BOD meeting were read and approved. Treasurer reposted a balance of $1493.03

III. Committee Reports

A. Tech VP, Scott, N7FSP, reported that all nodes are up and running. SEAW will get TheNET 2.08 soon. WA7UGB, BLM node looks like it will work out fine on 144.95 MHz. There has been no additional conversation with the Canadians in Abbotsford.

Dick, N7HHU, reposted that Montana was changing to a backbone on 223.01 MHz at Lookout Pass and Missoula.

B. Ken, N7IPB, reported that the 440 repeater was not up yet. But it is working and has been on the air at his place for short tests.

C. Ken, N7IPB, reported that Steve, N8GNJ, is sorting out the mess with the membership database. Pete, N7ENT, has offered to take over the Membership Committee job. Ken, N7IPB, will contact N8GNJ with the suggestion.

IV. New Business

A. The lockout of W0RLI and W7GCI from SEA and SEAW nodes

1. What was the problem? At the SYSOP meeting Feb 24th they decided who would forward to who in Western Washington. N7FSP was to be used as a hub and he would poll others for traffic and bulletins. Kirk, W7GCI, was not in attendance, and later he, George, WA7BHH, and Don, WB7QEU (OLY Node), decided to form a South Sound LAN and handle forwarding directly between each other. This seemed OK to the other SYSOPS as long as they only forwarded out of their LAN to W7DK and then to N7FSP to get to the rest of Western Washington.

2. It was then noticed that W7GCI was forwarding directly to W0RLI, but the GCI reported that this was going on on 80 Meters.

3. The first weekend in May, it was noticed that W7GCI and W0RLI were forwarding directly on the 220 backbone. This was again cloging the backbone and preventing any other forwarding activities which enter the system thru the VHF user ports from timing out.

4. At this point Scott, N7FSP, locked out W7GCI and W0RLI from the SEA and SEAW nodes.

5. When Ken, N7IPB, and other BOD members found out about the lockout, they were concerned that this action had not been discussed and agreed to by the BOD, and asked Scott the remove the lockout, which he did. Most of the BOD was not at that time aware of the activities leading up to Scotts actions.

6. Ken, N7IPB, has since sent a letter to W7GCI and W0RLI asking for an explaination. He has not yet received a reply, and plans to contact Kirk by telephone. If he and Hank do not agree to refrain from direct forwarding on the backbone, and continues to forward on the backbone, the lockouts will be replaced.

B. The following is general policy for NAPRA:

1. NAPRA is not in favor of BBS DXing because of its impact on the ability of the backbone to handle the extra traffic.

2. NAPRA supports static route listings on nodes to prevent marginal paths from being picked up and broadcast throughout the network. This does not prevent these paths from being used and connected by users, and if a new path is established and shown to be reliable, we are then in favor of adding it to the routes lists.

3. Locking out of callsigns is a tool that will only be used as a last resort to control the network, and will only be implimented after careful consideration by the Board of Directors.

4. It is our policy to maintain an open network and only restrict access as a tool for network management if warrented. If it is needed, the following steps will be taken:

a. the individuals involved will be contacted

b. a forum to discuss why access should not be restricted will set up and information gathered

c. the NAPRA Board of Directors will then decide what is best for the network and take appropriate action.

C. There was discussion about forming a Special SYSOP Committee within NAPRA to keep the BOD informed of their activities in the future.

D. Steve, N7IIJ reported that Ralph, KA7VEE, has moved to Lexington KT. EVT is looking for a new node operatorfor 145.09 MHz. All the equipment needs to be replaced. Some is on loan, but most belongs to Ralph. They are also looking for a new site. Steve has agreed to take over as node, if no one else will. He says some on 5.09 object to him being BBS and node, but so far no one will volunteer to pick up the node job. EVT currently is still running with KA7VEE.

E. WWARA - The last meeting was Thursday night. The NAPRA representatives notified WWARA of our intention to stop efforts to pass Packet Coordination to them. They agreed. Some sideline discussions are going on regarding additional packet frequencies. Outside written comments are being sought and should be sent to Ken, N7IPB, or any NAPRA Board member.

F. 220 Band Plan - The following was proposed to WWARA by their 220 coordinator, Peter, WA7FUS. WWARA decided to postpone any action until after the proposal could be submitted in their next newsletter and comments received from their membership. Their next meeting is in September (2 weeks after we have to be off the low end of the band).

Proposed 220 Band Plan (June 6, 1991)

222.000	-	222.200	Weak signal, SSB
222.200	-	222.280	Wide area packet, Repeater Inputs
222.280	-	222.380	Repeater Inputs
222.380	-	223.600	Simplex, links, control, voice
223.600	-	223.800	Wide Area Packet
223.800	-	224.980	Repeater outputs

Our backbone which is on 220.95 MHz needs to move.

440 from Nanum to BALDY was suggested, but probably would not be compatable with other equipment at the BALDY site. 6 M is possible but getting antennas to survive the winter will be a problem. Low end 440 (420-430 MHz) is possible at these locations. TEKK radios could be used along with 1 or 2 cavity isolators each.

1. NAPRAs recomendation is to move our backbone to 223.700 MHz, with a second possibility of 222.220. The second frequency is a bit more risky since that part of the band has a higher likelyhood of changing (and requiring a second backbone move.

2. John, KA7TTY, will draft a message to be sent to all node operators currently on 220.95. It will be sent to all BOD members to get comments to Scott, N7FSP, by June 15, so he can send it on to Node operators and get comments back by the July 13th BOD Meeting. Scott is authorized reimbursment for long distance calls in order to obtain the comments.

G. Packet Information Seminar - A free beginning and intermediate level seminar sponsored by Kantronics will be held on July 13th at the Seatac Holiday Inn. Registration starts at 8:30 AM and the first session starts at 9:00 AM. A bulletin was routed earlier.

H. Info from the Packet Forum at the Seaside Hamfest - Un-attended HF (30 MHz and lower) packet operation requires STA authorization. There are currently NO stations authorized in Washington State.

IV. Meeting Adjourned at 12:02 PM

John, KA7TTY
Secretary